Board of Selectmen (Special) Meeting Minutes Thursday, May 4, 2017 at 7:30pm Town Hall Meeting Room

Present: First Selectman Nina Daniel, Selectman Dennis Tracey, Selectman Chris Spaulding, Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz, Police Commission Chairman Bill Brady, Police Commission Vice Chairman Beth Gralnick, Interim Police Chief Matt Brodacki, Administrative Assistant Randi Derene, Weston Residents

This meeting was videotaped and recorded. The tapes are available in the Selectmen's office. The meetings are available for viewing online via the Town's website.

Ms. Daniel called the meeting to order at: 7:30pm

- 1- Pledge of Allegiance- Led by Margaret Wirtenberg
- 2- Discussion/decision regarding the reappointment of Ellen McCormick, Carol Baldwin, Nick Bell and Ed Parker to the Lachat Town Farm Commission for a term to end May 15, 2020. Mr. Spaulding moved to reappoint Ellen McCormick, Carol Baldwin, Nick Bell and Ed Parker to the Lachat Town Farm Commission for a term to end May 15, 2020. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 3- Discussion/decision regarding the resignation of Joy Peshkin from the Commission on Aging, effective 4/30/17. Mr. Tracy moved to accept the resignation of Joy Peshkin from the Commission on Aging, effective 4/30/17. Mr. Spaulding seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 4- Discussion/decision regarding the resignation of Bonnie Troy from the Sustainability

 Committee, effective 4/26/17 Mr. Spaulding moved to accept the resignation of Bonnie Troy

 from the Sustainability Committee, effective 4/26/17. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried

 unanimously.
- 5- Discussion/decision regarding the job description for Library Director. Library Board Chairman, Amy Sanborn, explained the process of updating the Library Director job description. More focus was put on technology as well as the director's relationship with our IT department. Mr. Tracey moved to approve the revised job description for Library Director as proposed, with the one exception being the following paragraph be changed from: "Develops internal policies and procedures for staff; supervises, trains, assigns work, counsels and evaluates employees and volunteers; provides training and development opportunities; conducts personnel functions" to "Develops internal policies and procedures for staff; supervises, trains, assigns work, counsels and evaluates employees and volunteers; provides training and development opportunities; conducts personnel functions, with the approval and direction of the Town Administrator and

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First Selectman." Mr. Spaulding seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- 6- Discussion/decision regarding giving permission to Al's Angels of the 2nd Annual Angel-ade Fundraiser to set up lemonade stands in Weston. Ms. Daniel explained the purpose of this fundraiser, which is to raise funds "to support local hospitals and organization by providing holiday meals and gifts to children and families battling cancer, rare blood diseases and sever financial hardship. Mr. Spaulding moved to give permission to Al's Angels for the 2nd Annual Angel-Ade Fundraiser to set up lemonade stands in Weston, specifically at the Bisceglie Scribner Park, Moorehouse Park, Weston Public Library and the Onion Barn, on Saturday, May 20, 2017, with a rain date of Sunday, May 21, 2017. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 7- Discussion/decision regarding sidewalks in Town Center Town Administrator, Mr. Luiz, spoke about the application he sent in for the STEAP Grant. He said the grant is for approximately \$240,000 and that the benefits of installing sidewalks would be to link the schools to the downtown business area, providing safety, social experience and exercise. He also said we are able to move ahead with this project, we would need to work with the states engineering department as Rt 57 is a state road. Mr. Luiz would like to come up with cost estimates by working with Land Use and our Town Engineer. Mr. Tracey stated that if we do not get the grant money, perhaps we could come up with another way to raise the money, as sidewalks would be a very big improvement to the school and center of town.
- 8- Discussion/decision regarding a Blight Ordinance Mr. Tracey stated that this topic was discussed at a Selectmen meeting last fall. He said there are situations in town that have been recognized as possible blight, and that some homes can be of safety concerns. He went on to say that there are three issues to keep in mind when considering a blight ordinance: 1) it is a rare problem; 2) could be the result of financial issues; and 3) what is the definition of blight? Mr. Tracey said he reached out to other towns to ask about their blight ordinances, and that other towns that have this ordinance in place rarely enforce it. Mr. Spaulding stated that blight would need to be tightly defined and then raised the question of how it should be enforced. Mr. Daniel stated that more research needed to be done and perhaps a draft ordinance would be created for review and comment.
- 9- Discussion/decision regarding health insurance premium contributions for non-union employees Mr. Tracey asked that we table this topic until we get more information from similar towns and what those non-union employees contribute.
- 10- Discussion/decision regarding a request for a supplemental appropriation of \$1,500 for legal consult to review a request by Police Department's collective bargaining unit to modify current work schedule. Police Commission Chair Bill Brady, Police Commission Vice Chair Beth

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Gralnick and Interim Chief Matt Brodacki joined the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Brady explained the need for a change in union contract language in regards to scheduling in order to help with efficiency and overtime. The Police Commission would like to hire attorney Kevin Roy to assist with these changes. The Police Commission also recommended that the discussion regarding the Police Department's collective bargaining unit continue during an executive session at the next BOS Meeting on May 17th. Mr. Tracey moved to request a supplemental appropriation of \$1500 for legal consult to review a request by the Weston police Department's collective bargaining unit to modify the current work schedule. Mr. Spaulding seconded .Motion carried unanimously.

11- Property Tax Refunds -

JOSEPH CORCORAN	389.19
J P MORGAN CHASE BANK	123.24
VW CREDIT LEASING	387.85
MERCEDES-BENZ FINANCIAL	488.77
VAULT TRUST/ALLY BANK	2,025.44
FRANK & MARY GEIGER	505.50
FRANK VOLLRATH	2,000.00

TOTAL \$5,919.99

Mr. Tracey moved to approve the Property Tax Refunds as listed on the May 4, 2017 Agenda for the total amount of \$5,919.99. Mr. Spaudling seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

- 12- **Minutes approval- April 20, 2017** Mr. Spaulding moved to approve the Board of Selectmen minutes from April 20, 2017. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.
- 13- **First Selectman Updates**: Ms. Daniel presented an interesting chart created by Harvey Bellin showing the results of the 2017 Weston Budget Referendum Voting on April 27. See attached.
- 14- **Adjourn**: Mr. Spaulding moved to adjourn at 8:56pm. Mr. Tracey seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Approved: June 8, 2017

Respectfully Submitted,

Randi Derene, Administrative Assistant